

EB minutes

August 30th 2023, 8:00 pm CEST

Present: Christelle, Gergana, Juuso, Flavia, Knut, Judit, Antonio, Helena, Robin

Excused: -

Minutes: Juuso (Review Knut)

Agenda

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Secretariat Update
 - a. Internal policy for elections period
3. Advocacy Update
4. Moving the official address of the JEF Europe offices
5. To do list
6. Congress presidium
7. Sections update
8. Activist protection guidelines
9. Webzine
10. AOB
 - a. Policy recap format
 - b. SOTEU Bingo

Minutes

1. Adoption of draft agenda	Decision: The agenda was adopted.
2. Secretariat updates There was a robbery at the office during the week that the office was closed in August. A new laptop, a camera and a camera battery charger are missing. During the week, walls were fixed by workers without prior authorisation by the Secretariat. There was no locked door at the office, despite the Secretariat's previous request to the landlord. The missing items cannot be replaced by insurance.	Secretariat updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- EB agrees with Judit's proposal for the cooperation with Multitudes. Secretariat to give a more detailed proposal for EB's review Election period: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Secretariat to publish the calls for candidates Official address: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- EB agrees to officially move the JEF Secretariat address to 14 Rue des

Deux Églises, 1000 Brussels

The cleaning company we had at the previous office tries to charge us around EUR 4,000 extra because we changed cleaning companies. The Secretariat considers seeking pro bono legal advice on the matter.

JEF isn't able to recover VAT as a part of tax declarations, but does have to pay VAT on service purchases - these tax costs are paid quarterly. So far, JEF has not always counted with this with service providers (especially designers we contract, trainers potentially, etc) necessarily, but for 2023 this is still fixable. The Secretariat has been briefed on how to include VAT in project budgets in the future.

In September, there will be a number of external events taking place at the JEF office, so the revenue stream is starting to materialise.

On the cooperation with a new foundation in Europe, Judit proposes prioritising Democracy under Pressure and Europe What If, in order to gain funding for these initiatives.

The Secretariat's Staff Day was held in July. The day focused on Secretariat members getting to know each other better, tackling team dynamics and on strategising for the future. The outcomes of the latter part are to be shared with the EB.

2a. Internal policy for election period

The Secretariat has drafted internal guidelines for how staff members should behave during the election period ahead of the JEF Congress. The draft has been presented to the EB.

Key principles:

- JEF Europe re-shares EB members' posts on the policy portfolios they follow in the board, in the same way as outside election periods
- Otherwise, candidates' (including EB members') posts aren't re-shared by JEF-Europe
- On EB members' travel reimbursements, the same rules should apply as outside election periods. During the election period, reimbursements are handled by the Secretariat on a case-by-case basis
- Staff members will refrain from giving their opinions about candidates for positions, even if asked

The EB also reviewed the draft call for candidacies for statutory positions ahead of the Congress.

3. Advocacy update

The discussion on Treaty change and enlargement is ongoing. JEF-Europe is continuing its advocacy for Treaty reform and for an enlarged EU.

The EurHope campaign was promoted to MEPs at a large scale, and there has been many positive feedbacks from MEPs to join the campaign. Moreover, there are new influencers sharing the campaign. At the moment, the online platform is approaching 600,000 votes cast.

Sandro Gozi resigned from UEF President's position. The new President is Domenec Devesa.

Civil Society Europe is launching the Civil Society State of the Union initiative next

-

<p>week. The launch will take place at the JEF-Europe office.</p>	
<p>4. To do list</p> <p>Recap of the to-do's of board members.</p>	-
<p>5. Congress Presidium</p> <p>Discussion on the Congress Presidium.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First candidates, decided on previously in an EB meeting, to be contacted by Secretariat tomorrow - EB members to propose further candidates
<p>6. Section update</p> <p>The EB ran through the latest updates from each of the sections, candidate sections and interest groups. The discussion was not minuted.</p>	
<p>7. Activist protection guidelines</p> <p>Christelle presented the activist protection guidelines she drafted, which had previously been shared with the EB as well as with TF Empowerment & Diversity.</p>	- The guidelines were approved
<p>8. Webzine</p> <p>Based on Juuso's discussion with the TNF Editors, on 1 October, recruitment for the new Editors-in-Chief for The New Federalist is to be launched. The new Editors would be chosen by 22 October, with a transition period in November with the current Editors.</p> <p>Drafting of an internal resolution on the webzine's role in the JEF architecture has started. A drafting session is foreseen for late September.</p>	- Juuso to draft with TNF an internal resolution about the webzine
<p>9. AOB</p> <p>a. <u>Policy Overview</u></p>	- JEF to join in the SOTEU bingo

The EB discussed the format for the Policy Overviews, prepared by the Policy Officer. The EB requested bulletins that look ahead to future events, with relevance to JEF. The updates should be relatively condensed.

b. SOTEU bingo

For the State of the Union speech taking place on 13 September, EurActiv will prepare bingo sheets in cooperation with Europe Elects. Flavia proposed JEF joining in the partnership.

The EB meeting closes at 23:18 CEST.